

**REMARKS**

The Examiner is thanked for determining claims 9 and 22 allowable.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 8, 11, 21, and 24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 9 and 22 are now pending in this application. Claims 9 and 22 are the independent claims.

**CONCLUSION**

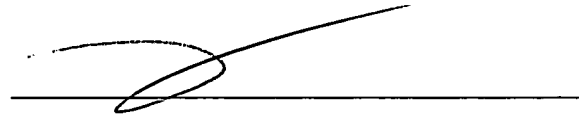
It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application as amended is in clear condition for allowance. Reconsideration, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-2504. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 434-972-9988 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Haynes PLC

Date: 9 August 2004



Michael N. Haynes  
Registration No. 40,014

1341 Huntersfield Close  
Keswick, VA 22947  
Telephone: 434-972-9988  
Facsimile: 815-550-8850